

REMARKS

By way of the foregoing amendments, to the claims, Claims 1-17 have been amended to delete the multiple dependencies and the reference numerals, and to replace the words "characterized in that" with the word "wherein". These changes have been made in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121 as amended on November 7, 2000.

It is requested that that application be examined on the bases of the substitute specification and the claims as amended.

Early and favorable consideration with respect to this application is respectfully requested.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application, the undersigned respectfully request that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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